

~~a blade head secured to a lowering device and comprising a blade head~~  
housing having a chamber;

said blade head having a blade holding member;

a circular blade retained in said blade holding member;

an advancing device mounted in said blade head  
housing;

said advancing device comprising an advancing piston rod and an advancing  
piston actuating said advancing piston rod;

said advancing piston rod acting on said blade holding member for moving the  
circular blade between a cutting position and a ready position;

~~21~~ said advancing piston [pneumatically] actuated by a first pneumatic drive and  
mounted and guided in said chamber;

a pressure spring acting on said advancing piston rod to press said advancing  
piston rod into the ready position of the circular blade;

a pressing device for overcoming the force of the pressure spring acting on  
the advancing piston rod during a cutting operation, said pressing device exclusively  
loading said pressure spring in a direction of the cutting position of the circular blade;

~~said pressing device decoupled from said advancing piston rod.~~

~~C2~~ 19. (Amended) A blade holder according to claim 18, wherein said  
pressing device comprises a slide[,] engaging said pressure spring and [arranged  
between] disposed proximate to said advancing device and the circular blade, and  
further comprises a second pneumatic drive for actuating said slide.